

20 June 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Geographic Research

SUBJECT: Geographic Research Program for FY 1961

Geographic research will continue to be devoted to the direct support of other intelligence programs. The largest single activity will be that in support of operational planning for clandestine collection and field activities. Sizeable parts of the research effort will also be devoted to the NIS program, special overt collection programs, and support of analyses and estimates in the field of Soviet science and military capabilities. The main objectives of self-generated work will be the evaluation of Soviet accomplishments in the fields of mapping and geodesy, analysis of geographic factors involved in situations of special concern to U.S. plans and policy, and reporting on significant geographic changes in areas of intelligence concern. Although geographic production is mostly unprogrammed, it is anticipated that more research effort will be required on Southeast Asia, trans-Saharan Africa, and Latin America. Depending on possible intelligence breakthroughs, more production may be required in support of guided-missiles, nuclear energy, and Polar activities intelligence. Allocation of resources to Soviet urban area analysis will be sizeable and will also increase given the possible development of new needs and sources. Throughout the period, the main thrust of the activity will consist in contributing geographic analyses to the solution of critical intelligence problems in all fields.

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Chief, Geographic Division